

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2022

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, March 14, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse. Commissioners present were Melvin Jear DOE, Edwin Splichal and Doug Garman. Clerk Kathleen Marsicek was present to record the minutes. Deb Hadachek from Belleville Telescope monitored the meeting.

The meeting was called to order and attendees pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Pastor Jacob Rice, Central Christian Church of Belleville, offered Morning Prayer.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Jear DOE seconded the motion. Commissioner Garman made it unanimous.

Commissioner Jear DOE made a motion to approve the March 7, 2022 minutes. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Commissioner Garman made it unanimous.

There was a brief review of the minutes from January 25, 2021, where the commissioners had made a motion to pay employees regular pay so they did not need to use vacation hours if the county courthouse and other offices are closed due to inclement weather. The current Employee handbook has not been updated since 2019, so Section 103 is not updated. Clerk Marsicek will contact the Taskforce to ask if they can work on updating information.

James Doyle, Treasurer of Belleville High Banks, asked permission to use Republic County as the owner of the land for a grant application for the lighting project at the racetrack. Permission was granted.

Matt Dowell and Barbara Fisher, concerned citizens, asked many questions regarding the High Banks Windfarm project pertaining to distancing from residences, where will the money be allotted that is received by Republic County and where do the commissioners stand on the project. Dowell suggested that the commission meetings be live streamed when discussing the windfarm issues. The commission will take that under consideration.

Commissioner Garman explained that no agreements have been signed between Republic County and NextEra. The county has received a draft of the road use agreement that is under review.

Nathan Craig, Rural Fire District #3 new Fire Chief, requested suggestions where the fire department could apply for money for equipment supplies. The commissioners suggested Dane Hansen Foundation and the Fireman's Relief.

Nathan Craig, Stacey Bowen and Max Wickstrum, Highway, Transportation and Bridge joined the meeting. They presented and discussed with Commissioners the following:

- The weekly community concerns and projects completed report sent by Ken Robbins.
- Used materials from bridge P-10.7 will be used to repair T-22.7.
- A partial shipment of culverts has been received.

Commissioner Garman passed on compliments from residents from the Courtland and Republic areas regarding the removal of trees.

Arlene Clayton joined the meeting and thanked the road crews for fixing the roadway to the county landfill.

Sherry Koster, North Central Kansas Local Environmental Planning Group (NCKLEPG) sanitarian, presented the July 2021 to December 2021 report. Koster also asked the commissioners to review the Voting ballot to remain part of the NCKLEPG for 2022-2023 year.

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to renew membership with the NCKLEPG and agreed to pay \$1,500 county match for services of the NCKLEPG. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Garman.

At 12:00 p.m. Commissioner Splichal made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Commissioner Garman made it unanimous.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, March 21, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse.

ATTEST: _____
Kathleen L. Marsicek, Republic County Clerk

APPROVED: _____
Doug Garman – Chair

Edwin Splichal – Member

Melvin Jeardoe – Member